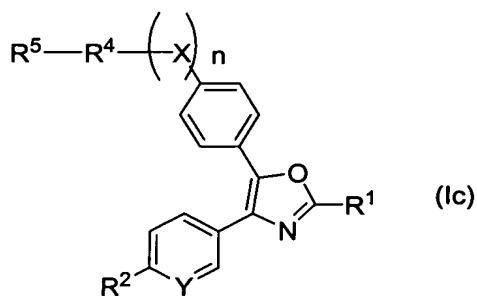
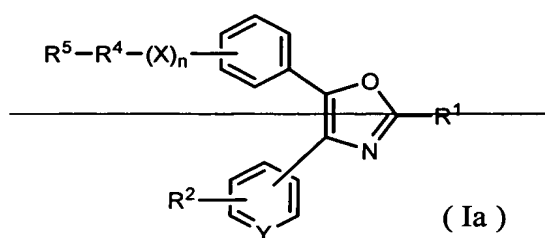


IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claim 1 (Canceled).

Claim 2 (Currently Amended): A compound of the formula (Ic) ~~(Ia)~~:



wherein

R¹ is hydrogen, (lower)alkyl, (lower)alkyl substituted with at least one substituent
selected from the group consisting of
(lower)alkyl, cycloalkyl, aryl, heteroaryl, (lower)alkoxy, [(lower)acyl]oxy,
aryl[(lower)alkyl]oxy, [(lower)alkyl]sulfonyloxy, amino, [(lower)alkyl]amino,
di[(lower)alkyl]amino, [(lower)acyl]amino, carbamoylamino,
[(lower)alkylcarbamoyl]amino, [di(lower)alkylcarbamoyl]amino,

[(lower)alkoxycarbonyl]amino, [(lower)alkoxy]carbonyl, [(lower)alkyl]thio, arylthio, heteroarylthio, carboxy, hydroxy, hydroxyimino and halogen;

~~substituted with substituent(s) (i) described later,~~

(lower)alkenyl, (lower)alkynyl, cycloalkyl, aryl, saturated heterocyclyl, heteroaryl,
(lower)alkoxy, (lower)alkoxy substituted with at least one substituent selected from the group consisting of

(lower)alkyl, cycloalkyl, aryl, heteroaryl, (lower)alkoxy, [(lower)acyl]oxy, aryl[(lower)alkyl]oxy, [(lower)alkyl]sulfonyloxy, amino, [(lower)alkyl]amino, di[(lower)alkyl]amino, [(lower)acyl]amino, carbamoylamino, [(lower)alkylcarbamoyl]amino, [di(lower)alkylcarbamoyl]amino, [(lower)alkoxycarbonyl]amino, [(lower)alkoxy]carbonyl, [(lower)alkyl]thio, arylthio, heteroarylthio, carboxy, hydroxy, hydroxyimino and halogen;

~~substituted with substituent(s) (i) described later,~~ (lower)alkenyloxy, (lower)alkynyloxy, cycloalkyloxy, aryloxy, heteroaryloxy, (saturated heterocyclyl)oxy, amino, [(lower)alkyl]amino, di[(lower)alkyl]amino, di[(lower)alkyl]amino substituted with at least one substituent selected from the group consisting of

(lower)alkyl, cycloalkyl, aryl, heteroaryl, (lower)alkoxy, [(lower)acyl]oxy, aryl[(lower)alkyl]oxy, [(lower)alkyl]sulfonyloxy, amino, [(lower)alkyl]amino, di[(lower)alkyl]amino, [(lower)acyl]amino, carbamoylamino, [(lower)alkylcarbamoyl]amino, [di(lower)alkylcarbamoyl]amino, [(lower)alkoxycarbonyl]amino, [(lower)alkoxy]carbonyl, [(lower)alkyl]thio, arylthio, heteroarylthio, carboxy, hydroxy, hydroxyimino and halogen;

~~substituent(s) (i) described later on (lower)alkyl~~, [(lower)acyl]amino, cycloalkylamino, arylamino, (saturated heterocyclyl)amino, heteroaryl amino, carbamoyl, carbamoyl substituted with at least one substituent selected from the group consisting of

(lower)alkyl, (lower)alkyl substituted with hydroxy, (lower)alkyl substituted with carbamoyl, (lower)alkyl substituted with (lower)alkoxy, (lower)alkoxy, amino, [(lower)alkyl]amino and di[(lower)alkyl]amino;

~~substituent(s) (ii) described later~~, (lower)acyl, cycloalkylcarbonyl, arylcarbonyl, (saturated heterocyclyl)carbonyl, heteroarylcarbonyl, [(lower)alkoxy]carbonyl, [(lower)alkyl]thio, [(lower)alkyl]thio substituted with ~~substituent(s) (i) described later~~, at least one substituent selected from the group consisting of

(lower)alkyl, cycloalkyl, aryl, heteroaryl, (lower)alkoxy, [(lower)acyl]oxy, aryl[(lower)alkyl]oxy, [(lower)alkyl]sulfonyloxy, amino, [(lower)alkyl]amino, di[(lower)alkyl]amino, [(lower)acyl]amino, carbamoylamino, [(lower)alkylcarbamoyl]amino, [di(lower)alkylcarbamoyl]amino, [(lower)alkoxycarbonyl]amino, [(lower)alkoxy]carbonyl, [(lower)alkyl]thio, arylthio, heteroarylthio, carboxy, hydroxy, hydroxyimino and halogen;

[(lower)alkyl]sulfinyl, [(lower)alkyl]sulfonyl, cyano, carboxy, hydroxy, mercapto or halogen;

R² is (lower)alkyl, saturated heterocyclyl, (lower)alkoxy or cyano;

R⁴ is (lower)alkylene, ~~(lower)alkenylene, or covalent bond;~~

R⁵ is ~~hydrogen, (lower)alkyl, aryl, heteroaryl, (lower)alkoxy, [(lower)acyl]oxy,~~

~~[(lower)alkyl]sulfonyloxy, [tri(lower)alkyl]silyloxy, amino,~~

~~[(lower)alkyl]amino, di[(lower)alkyl]amino, [(lower)acyl]amino,~~

~~[(lower)alkoxy]carbonylamino, [(lower)alkyl]sulfonylamino,~~

~~heteroarylthiocarbonylamino, carbamoylamino, carbamoylamino substituted~~

~~with at least one substituent selected from the group consisting of~~

(lower)alkyl, (lower)alkyl substituted with hydroxy, (lower)alkyl substituted with carbamoyl, (lower)alkyl substituted with (lower)alkoxy, (lower)alkoxy, amino, [(lower)alkyl]amino and di[(lower)alkyl]amino;

~~substituent(s) (ii) described later on carbamoyl, aryloxycarbonylamino (which which~~
may be substituted with at least one substituent selected from the group consisting of
~~substituent(s) (iii) described later on aryl);~~

(lower)alkyl, (lower)alkoxy, nitro and cyano;

[(lower)alkoxy]carbonyl, hydroxy, cyano or azido;

X is "O", "S", "SO", or "SO₂";

Y is "CH" ~~or "N"~~;

n is 0 or 1;

~~substituent(s) (i) is(are) selected from the group consisting of (lower)alkyl,~~

~~cycloalkyl, aryl, heteroaryl, (lower)alkoxy, [(lower)acyl]oxy,~~

~~aryl[(lower)alkyl]oxy, [(lower)alkyl]sulfonyloxy, amino, [(lower)alkyl]amino,~~

~~di[(lower)alkyl]amino, [(lower)acyl]amino, carbamoylamino,~~

~~[(lower)alkylcarbamoyl]amino, [di(lower)alkylcarbamoyl]amino,~~

~~[(lower)alkoxycarbonyl]amino, [(lower)alkoxy]carbonyl, [(lower)alkyl]thio,~~

~~arylthio, heteroarylthio, carboxy, hydroxy, hydroxyimino and halogen;~~

~~substituent(s) (ii) is(are) selected from the group consisting of (lower)alkyl,~~

~~(lower)alkyl substituted with hydroxy, (lower)alkyl substituted with~~

~~carbamoyl, (lower)alkyl substituted with (lower)alkoxy, (lower)alkoxy, amino,~~

~~[(lower)alkyl]amino and di[(lower)alkyl]amino;~~

~~substituent(s) (iii) is(are) selected from the group consisting of (lower)alkyl,~~

~~(lower)alkoxy, nitro and cyano;~~

or pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof.

Claim 3 (Currently Amended): The compound or pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof according to Claim 1-~~or~~ 2, wherein R¹ is (lower)alkyl substituted with halogen(s), or cycloalkyl.

Claim 4 (Currently Amended): The compound or pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof according to Claim 1-~~or~~ 2, wherein R² is (lower)alkoxy.

Claims 5-6 (Canceled).

Claim 7 (Currently Amended): The compound or pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof according to Claim 1-~~or~~ 2, wherein R⁵ is [(lower)alkyl]sulfonylamino, carbamoylamino or hydroxy.

Claim 8 (Currently Amended): The compound or pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof according to Claim 1-~~or~~ 2, wherein X is O; ~~and n is 1.~~

Claim 9 (Currently Amended): A compound selected from the group consisting of
2-{4-[2-(Difluoromethyl)-4-(4-methoxyphenyl)-1,3-oxazol-5-yl]phenoxy} ethanol, and
2-{4-[-(4-Methoxyphenyl)-2-(trifluoromethyl)-1,3-oxazol-5-yl]phenoxy} ethanol
~~2-{4 [2 (Difluoromethyl) 4 (6-methoxy 3-pyridinyl) 1,3-oxazol-5-yl]phenoxy} ethanol,~~
~~N-(2-{4 [4 (6-Methoxy 3-pyridinyl) 2-(trifluoromethyl) 1,3-oxazol-5-~~
~~yl]phenoxy}ethyl)methanesulfonamide,~~
~~N-(2-{4 [4 (6-Methoxy 3-pyridinyl) 2-(trifluoromethyl) 1,3-oxazol-5-~~
~~yl]phenoxy}ethyl)urea,~~

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~~2-{4-[2-Cyclopropyl-4-(6-methoxy-3-pyridinyl)-1,3-oxazol-5-yl]phenoxy}ethanol and
N-(2-{4-[2-Cyclopropyl-4-(6-methoxy-3-pyridinyl)-1,3-oxazol-5-
yl]phenoxy}ethyl)methanesulfonamide.~~

Claims 10-11 (Canceled)

Claim 12 (Currently Amended): A composition comprising the compound of Claim 2, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier, excipient, or combination thereof ~~A compound of Claim 1, 2 or 9 for use as a medicament.~~

Claim 13 (Currently Amended): A method for treating at least one disease in a human or animal in need thereof comprising administering the composition of Claim 12 to the human or animal in an amount sufficient to treat the at least one disease, wherein the at least one disease is selected from the group consisting of pain, inflammatory diseases, thrombosis, or a combination thereof ~~The compound of Claim 12 for use in the treatment and/or prevention of inflammatory conditions, various pains, collagen diseases, autoimmune diseases, various immunity diseases, thrombosis, cancer or neurodegenerative diseases in human beings or animals.~~

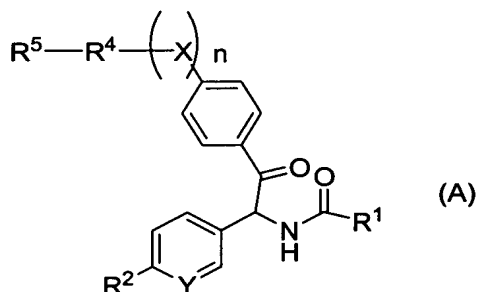
Claims 14-18 (Canceled).

Claim 19 (Currently Amended): The analgesic agent method of Claim 13 ~~Claim 18,~~ which is usable for treating or preventing wherein the pain pains is caused by or associated with rheumatoid arthritis, osteoarthritis, lumbar rheumatism, rheumatoid spondylitis, gouty

arthritis, juvenile arthritis; lumbago; cervico-omo-brachial syndrome; scapulohumeral periarthritis; pain and tumescence after operation or injury.

Claim 20 (Currently Amended): A commercial package comprising the ~~pharmaceutical composition containing the compound (I) identified in Claim 1, 2 or 9 of Claim 12~~ and a written matter associated therewith, wherein the written matter states that the composition ~~compound (I)~~ can or should be used for ~~preventing and/or~~ treating inflammatory ~~diseases~~ conditions, ~~various pains~~ pain, or ~~collagen diseases, autoimmune diseases, various immunity diseases, analgesic, thrombosis, cancer or neurodegenerative diseases.~~

Claim 21 (New): A method for producing the compound or pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof according to Claim 2, which comprises reacting a compound of formula (A) with phosphorus oxychloride or triphenylphosphine



wherein

R^1 is hydrogen, (lower)alkyl, (lower)alkyl, wherein the (lower)alkyl is substituted with at least one substituent selected from the group consisting of (lower)alkyl, cycloalkyl, aryl, heteroaryl, (lower)alkoxy, [(lower)acyl]oxy, aryl[(lower)alkyl]oxy, [(lower)alkyl]sulfonyloxy, amino, [(lower)alkyl]amino, di[(lower)alkyl]amino, [(lower)acyl]amino, carbamoylamino, [(lower)alkylcarbamoyl]amino, [di(lower)alkylcarbamoyl]amino,

[(lower)alkoxycarbonyl]amino, [(lower)alkoxy]carbonyl, [(lower)alkyl]thio, arylthio, heteroarylthio, carboxy, hydroxy, hydroxyimino and halogen; (lower)alkenyl, (lower)alkynyl, cycloalkyl, aryl, saturated heterocyclyl, heteroaryl, (lower)alkoxy, (lower)alkoxy, wherein the (lower)alkoxy is substituted with at least one substituent selected from the group consisting of (lower)alkyl, cycloalkyl, aryl, heteroaryl, (lower)alkoxy, [(lower)acyl]oxy, aryl[(lower)alkyl]oxy, [(lower)alkyl]sulfonyloxy, amino, [(lower)alkyl]amino, di[(lower)alkyl]amino, [(lower)acyl]amino, carbamoylamino, [(lower)alkylcarbamoyl]amino, [di(lower)alkylcarbamoyl]amino, [(lower)alkoxycarbonyl]amino, [(lower)alkoxy]carbonyl, [(lower)alkyl]thio, arylthio, heteroarylthio, carboxy, hydroxy, hydroxyimino and halogen; (lower)alkenyloxy, (lower)alkynyloxy, cycloalkyloxy, aryloxy, heteroaryloxy, (saturated heterocyclyl)oxy, amino, [(lower)alkyl]amino, di[(lower)alkyl]amino, di[(lower)alkyl]amino, wherein the di[(lower)alkyl]amino is substituted with at least one substituent selected from the group consisting of (lower)alkyl, cycloalkyl, aryl, heteroaryl, (lower)alkoxy, [(lower)acyl]oxy, aryl[(lower)alkyl]oxy, [(lower)alkyl]sulfonyloxy, amino, [(lower)alkyl]amino, di[(lower)alkyl]amino, [(lower)acyl]amino, carbamoylamino, [(lower)alkylcarbamoyl]amino, [di(lower)alkylcarbamoyl]amino, [(lower)alkoxycarbonyl]amino, [(lower)alkoxy]carbonyl, [(lower)alkyl]thio, arylthio, heteroarylthio, carboxy, hydroxy, hydroxyimino and halogen; [(lower)acyl]amino, cycloalkylamino, arylamino, (saturated heterocyclyl)amino, heteroarylamino, carbamoyl, carbamoyl substituted with at least one substituent selected from the group consisting of

(lower)alkyl, (lower)alkyl substituted with hydroxy, (lower)alkyl substituted with carbamoyl, (lower)alkyl substituted with (lower)alkoxy, (lower)alkoxy, amino, [(lower)alkyl]amino and di[(lower)alkyl]amino;

(lower)acyl, cycloalkylcarbonyl, arylcarbonyl, (saturated heterocyclyl)carbonyl, heteroarylcarbonyl, [(lower)alkoxy]carbonyl, [(lower)alkyl]thio, [(lower)alkyl]thio substituted with at least one substituent selected from the group consisting of

(lower)alkyl, cycloalkyl, aryl, heteroaryl, (lower)alkoxy, [(lower)acyl]oxy, aryl[(lower)alkyl]oxy, [(lower)alkyl]sulfonyloxy, amino, [(lower)alkyl]amino, di[(lower)alkyl]amino, [(lower)acyl]amino, carbamoylamino, [(lower)alkylcarbamoyl]amino, [di(lower)alkylcarbamoyl]amino, [(lower)alkoxycarbonyl]amino, [(lower)alkoxy]carbonyl, [(lower)alkyl]thio, arylthio, heteroarylthio, carboxy, hydroxy, hydroxyimino and halogen;

[(lower)alkyl]sulfinyl, [(lower)alkyl]sulfonyl, cyano, carboxy, hydroxy, mercapto or halogen;

R² is (lower)alkyl, saturated heterocyclyl, (lower)alkoxy or cyano;

R⁴ is (lower)alkylene;

R⁵ is [(lower)acyl]oxy, [(lower)alkyl]sulfonyloxy, [tri(lower)alkyl]silyloxy, amino,

[(lower)alkyl]amino, di[(lower)alkyl]amino, [(lower)acyl]amino,

[(lower)alkoxy]carbonylamino, [(lower)alkyl]sulfonylamino,

heteroarylthiocarbonylamino, carbamoylamino, carbamoylamino substituted

with at least one substituent selected from the group consisting of

(lower)alkyl, (lower)alkyl substituted with hydroxy, (lower)alkyl substituted with carbamoyl, (lower)alkyl substituted with (lower)alkoxy, (lower)alkoxy, amino, [(lower)alkyl]amino and di[(lower)alkyl]amino;

aryloxycarbonylamino ~~(which~~ which may be substituted with at least one substituent selected from the group consisting of

(lower)alkyl, (lower)alkoxy, nitro and cyano;

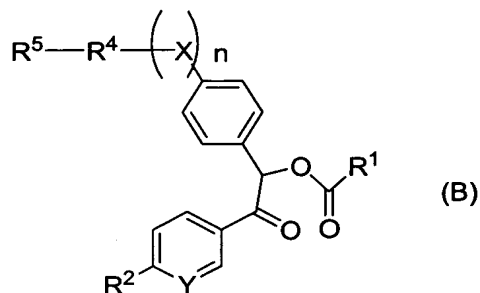
[(lower)alkoxy]carbonyl, hydroxy, cyano or azido;

X is "O", "S", "SO", or "SO₂";

Y is "CH";

n is 0 or 1.

Claim 22 (New): A method for producing the compound or pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof according to Claim 2, which comprises reacting a compound of formula (B) with phosphorus oxychloride or triphenylphosphine



wherein

R¹ is hydrogen, (lower)alkyl, (lower)alkyl, wherein the (lower)alkyl is substituted with at least one substituent selected from the group consisting of (lower)alkyl, cycloalkyl, aryl, heteroaryl, (lower)alkoxy, [(lower)acyl]oxy, aryl[(lower)alkyl]oxy, [(lower)alkyl]sulfonyloxy, amino, [(lower)alkyl]amino, di[(lower)alkyl]amino, [(lower)acyl]amino, carbamoylamino, [(lower)alkyl]carbamoyl]amino, [di(lower)alkyl]carbamoyl]amino, [(lower)alkoxycarbonyl]amino, [(lower)alkoxy]carbonyl, [(lower)alkyl]thio, arylthio, heteroarylthio, carboxy, hydroxy, hydroxyimino and halogen;

(lower)alkenyl, (lower)alkynyl, cycloalkyl, aryl, saturated heterocyclyl, heteroaryl, (lower)alkoxy, (lower)alkoxy, wherein the (lower)alkoxy is substituted with at least one substituent selected from the group consisting of

(lower)alkyl, cycloalkyl, aryl, heteroaryl, (lower)alkoxy, [(lower)acyl]oxy, aryl[(lower)alkyl]oxy, [(lower)alkyl]sulfonyloxy, amino, [(lower)alkyl]amino, di[(lower)alkyl]amino, [(lower)acyl]amino, carbamoylamino, [(lower)alkylcarbamoyl]amino, [di(lower)alkylcarbamoyl]amino, [(lower)alkoxycarbonyl]amino, [(lower)alkoxy]carbonyl, [(lower)alkyl]thio, arylthio, heteroarylthio, carboxy, hydroxy, hydroxyimino and halogen;

(lower)alkenyloxy, (lower)alkynyloxy, cycloalkyloxy, aryloxy, heteroaryloxy, (saturated heterocyclyl)oxy, amino, [(lower)alkyl]amino, di[(lower)alkyl]amino, di[(lower)alkyl]amino, wherein the di[(lower)alkyl]amino is substituted with at least one substituent selected from the group consisting of

(lower)alkyl, cycloalkyl, aryl, heteroaryl, (lower)alkoxy, [(lower)acyl]oxy, aryl[(lower)alkyl]oxy, [(lower)alkyl]sulfonyloxy, amino, [(lower)alkyl]amino, di[(lower)alkyl]amino, [(lower)acyl]amino, carbamoylamino, [(lower)alkylcarbamoyl]amino, [di(lower)alkylcarbamoyl]amino, [(lower)alkoxycarbonyl]amino, [(lower)alkoxy]carbonyl, [(lower)alkyl]thio, arylthio, heteroarylthio, carboxy, hydroxy, hydroxyimino and halogen;

[(lower)acyl]amino, cycloalkylamino, arylamino, (saturated heterocyclyl)amino, heteroarylamino, carbamoyl, carbamoyl substituted with at least one substituent selected from the group consisting of

(lower)alkyl, (lower)alkyl substituted with hydroxy, (lower)alkyl substituted with carbamoyl, (lower)alkyl substituted with (lower)alkoxy, (lower)alkoxy, amino, [(lower)alkyl]amino and di[(lower)alkyl]amino;

(lower)acyl, cycloalkylcarbonyl, arylcarbonyl, (saturated heterocyclyl)carbonyl, heteroarylcarbonyl, [(lower)alkoxy]carbonyl, [(lower)alkyl]thio, [(lower)alkyl]thio substituted with at least one substituent selected from the group consisting of

(lower)alkyl, cycloalkyl, aryl, heteroaryl, (lower)alkoxy, [(lower)acyl]oxy, aryl[(lower)alkyl]oxy, [(lower)alkyl]sulfonyloxy, amino, [(lower)alkyl]amino, di[(lower)alkyl]amino, [(lower)acyl]amino, carbamoylamino, [(lower)alkylcarbamoyl]amino, [di(lower)alkylcarbamoyl]amino, [(lower)alkoxycarbonyl]amino, [(lower)alkoxy]carbonyl, [(lower)alkyl]thio, arylthio, heteroarylthio, carboxy, hydroxy, hydroxyimino and halogen;

[(lower)alkyl]sulfinyl, [(lower)alkyl]sulfonyl, cyano, carboxy, hydroxy, mercapto or halogen;

R² is (lower)alkyl, saturated heterocyclyl, (lower)alkoxy or cyano;

R⁴ is (lower)alkylene;

R⁵ is [(lower)acyl]oxy, [(lower)alkyl]sulfonyloxy, [tri(lower)alkyl]silyloxy, amino,

[(lower)alkyl]amino, di[(lower)alkyl]amino, [(lower)acyl]amino,

[(lower)alkoxy]carbonylamino, [(lower)alkyl]sulfonylamino,

heteroarylthiocarbonylamino, carbamoylamino, carbamoylamino substituted

with at least one substituent selected from the group consisting of

(lower)alkyl, (lower)alkyl substituted with hydroxy, (lower)alkyl substituted with carbamoyl, (lower)alkyl substituted with (lower)alkoxy, (lower)alkoxy, amino, [(lower)alkyl]amino and di[(lower)alkyl]amino;

aryloxy carbonylamino which may be substituted with at least one substituent selected from the group consisting of

(lower)alkyl, (lower)alkoxy, nitro and cyano;

[(lower)alkoxy]carbonyl, hydroxy, cyano or azido;

X is "O", "S", "SO", or "SO₂";

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Y is "CH";

n is 0 or 1.